

January 2006 Unified Program Newsletter

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California Environmental Protection Agency

Violation Classification Workgroup

The Violation Classification Workgroup, a subgroup of the UPAAG Enforcement Steering Committee, has completed the draft Violation Classification Guidance Document and it is available for review. The Guidance Document outlines standard classification protocol for all Unified Program violations. The Workgroup will present the document at the CUPA Conference on Wed, February 8 from 3-5 PM. For additional information, contact Mickey Pierce at

Deputy Secretary Departs

Maureen Gorsen, Deputy Secretary for Law Enforcement and General Counsel, departed Cal/EPA on January 9, 2006 to accept the position as the Director of DTSC. Shankar B. Prasad, Deputy Secretary for Science and Environmental Justice, will be the Acting Deputy Secretary for Law Enforcement and Steve Koyasako, Assistant Chief Counsel for DTSC, will be the Cal/EPA Acting General Counsel until the Deputy Secretary's position is refilled.

State CUPA Fee Regulations

Cal/EPA filed to readopt the emergency regulations titled "Unified Program Single Fee System for State Agencies", with the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on January 9, 2006. The permanent regulations were also filed with OAL at the same time, starting the 45 day public comment period. The regulations can be found at http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/LawsRegsPolicies/Regs/CUPA_Fee_regs.cfm. If you have any questions about these regulations, please contact Ms. Mary Wilson of DTSC at (916) 323-7367 or by email at mwilson@dtsc.ca.gov.

Unified Program Office Moves

The Unified Program Office, which has long been on the second floor at Cal/EPA HQ, has moved into a new office on the fourth floor. All contact information and mailing information remains the same.

Office of the State Fire Marshal

New Chief for Unified Program

Vickie Sakamoto, the new Chief of Fire Engineering, is the new Chief for the Unified Program at the OSFM.

Department of Toxic Substances Control

DTSC has a new director

Governor Schwarzenegger has appointed Maureen Gorsen to be the new director for the Department of Toxic Substances Control effective January 9, 2006. Ms. Gorsen was previously Cal/EPA's Deputy Secretary for Law Enforcement and General Counsel.

Change in Support Functions

The Public and Business Liaison/Duty Officer in the Berkeley office, James Stettler, has accepted a new position within DTSC. James will begin his role as the Pollution Prevention/Green Business Coordinator and Advocate for the Berkeley office. CUPAs in northern California and the Greater Bay Area will be gaining a great new advocate, while we all lose a great technical resource James brought as the Duty Officer. Please remind staff that their CUPA liaisons are available to answer technical questions, and that it will be even more important for them to contact their liaisons as the other Duty Officers attempt to "cover" for James. If you are in the Greater Bay Area, and would like P2 support or info on Green Business programs, please feel free to contact James about what he may offer. James is field ready and would love to support staff in the field as requests come in. James can be reached at 510-540-3739 (now) or 510-540-3867 (in the near future).

Electronic Biennial Reporting

Just a reminder that Large Quantity Generator businesses are strongly encourage to submit their 2005 Biennial Report electronically. All the information needed regarding the electronic submittal of the BR can be found at http://www.ess-home.com/content/products/EnvMng/waste_reporter/default.htm . Additional information can be contacting DTSC at 916-322-2880, by email at brsstaff@dtsc.ca.gov or by posting questions at www.calepa.ca.gov/forums in the BRS forum section.

DTSC Imperial County Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA) Open House

On December 15, 2005, the Department of Toxic and Substances Control (DTSC) Imperial County Certified Unified Program Agency (CUPA), held an open house at DTSC Calexico office in Calexico, California. Representatives and guests from State and local agencies included the Imperial County Farm Bureau, The Coalition of Labor Agriculture & Business, Imperial Irrigation District, Employment Development Department, Air Pollution Control District, Office of Agricultural Commissioner, County Of Imperial, One Stop, Imperial County of Education and Training, Calexico Police Department, etc. were in attendance.

Leonard Robinson, Acting Director of DTSC, delivered the keynote speech and provided a background on the CUPA Program, discussed the Program elements, and the goals and accomplishments of Imperial CUPA. Robinson spoke on cooperation and support and DTSC's goal to protect and improve public health and the environment in Imperial County. DTSC Management that attended the Open House included Watson Gin, Deputy Director of the Hazardous Waste Management Program, Kim Wilhelm Division Chief for the Statewide Compliance Division, Yvonne Sanchez, Branch Chief and Imperial County CUPA Program Manager and the DTSC Calexico management and staff. DTSC provided an exhibitor booth in the lobby in order to assist the public with questions and provide literature and information on the Program. The Imperial CUPA open house event was a success as it was well received by the attendees.



The Unified Program Section is interested in your comments and suggestions regarding the monthly newsletter. Please provide comments and suggestions to cupa@calepa.ca.gov.

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